

PROJECT TITLE : PILOT-PLANT OPERATIONS
PERIOD COVERED : OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 25 1981
WRITTEN BY : Lüthi-N. (NIL)

1. EQUIPMENT

1.1. Extract Clean-up

The Sweco vibrator purchased for cleaning up the extract at the outlet of the extractor arrived on November 13 and was installed.

1.2. Fermentor

The gasket of the agitator had to be replaced. Due to infection problems encountered during the fermentation of the strip-extract, assistance was given by two Chemap engineers during a sterilization test of the fermentor. In general, our sterilization procedure was found to be satisfactory. Nevertheless, the engineers from Chemap were able to give us some advice on this matter (1).

1.3. Sterilization Line of the Extract

Even when using different cleaning products to clean the sterilization line, some deposits were still found especially in the tubes of the sterilizer. It was therefore decided to rent a special cleaning apparatus which uses high-pressurized jets of water and this gave satisfactory results.

1.4. Centrifuge

The rented Westfalia centrifuge arrived on November 16 and was installed. First trials have already given better results than those obtained with the existing Alfa-Laval centrifuge.

2. DRYING OF STRIPS

After some discussion with the supplier of tobacco drying equipment about our strip-drying problem, it was finally decided to purchase the drying chamber they proposed which works batch-wise.

3. REFERENCE

1. Letter from Dietrich-A to Schulthess-D, November 12 1981

NIL/sde/NOVEMBER 27 1981

U. All

0000143975